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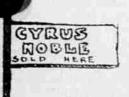
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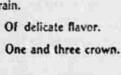
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#### Letter Writers Here Cause Much Trouble.

#### MAIL RECEIPTS ARE INCREASING day afternoon at 5 o'clock. The Han-

People Fail to Co-Operate With Department and Make Uncalled for Complaints.

Co-operation on the part of the public well." will do wonders toward assisting the In the new addition to the pos office Honolulu postoffice in the rapid assort- are arranged the "pitching ra ks" office itself.

An investigation of the manner in en pared to any office in the United European and South American mail,

An Advertiser reporter was escorted through the various departments of the Y. & Chic. R. P. O.," taking in New postoffice yesterday by Chief Clerk England points, the mail being sepa-Louis Kenake, who outlined the meth- rated on the trains; "Portland and S. ods now in vogue in handling the mass F.," mail for the Pacific Coast states, of letters, papers and packages which separated at San Francisco; "Ogden & ing which houses Uncle Sam's postal states. "S. F. Dis." is the mail for Tawhich each letter is received at the side Francisco. By this means the mails door from the mail wagons, its removal are despatched along the routes from from the pouch in which it has trav- twenty-four to thirty-six hours earlier eled perhaps thousands of miles, the than if the mail was separated and disstamping of the Honolulu date-mark, tributed at San Francisco, as in former the assortment with letters for pri- years. If mails are properly pouched followed. One can realize only by ob- outgoing transcontinental train, the servation what a fine system Uncle Sam sacks are transferred direct without employs in caring for the smallest and the formality of going through the San largest of packages and at the same Francisco postoffice. time the tremendous difficulties which are encountered by the small force of one of the proficient arts of the postsixteen men of all nationalities who office service, and after considerable 'work" the mail.

Island mail, and it is due to many of racks to extract the paper and place it the large business houses that so much properly. and it was unnecessary to write on a Asiatics send away in the neighborhood promptly. Today, when the mail mat- it comes in on the Island boats to Hoocean steamers amounts to more mail and are considered quite accurchanged, plain "John Smith, is redistributed at Yokohama, or "James Brown, Honolulu," is not sufficient to insure proper delivery. Letters in this day and age must be day, the general sailing day from Hoaddressed with the full name, address nolulu of the Island steamers, and the or box number. By so doing the clerks office is taxed to its utmost to "tie up" are relieved of the constant worry as and start the bags on their journeys. er he has a box or whether it goes into "tie-ups" of mail matter have to be

at the general delivery window. the assorting table and taking a hand- is compelled to use as few sacks as posful of letters just deposited by a well sible whenever convenient. known business firm. The envelopes, inscribed with the firm name, contained the monthly statement of account and dresses in the Cathedral on the Seven they were but a small part of the thousands of such envelopes which have the Bishop. He proposes to treat those been dropped into the postoffice since seven sayings as inculcating the fol-

"Here is one directed to 'John G-The clerk, when he picks that up, has ness. 2. Hope of rest in Paradise. 3. to think quickly and he must know Self-forgetfulness for the sake of whether that person has a box or others. 4. The use of the Psalms for whether he gets his mail at the general communings with God. 5. Thirsting delivery window. The next question for righteousness. 6. Devotion to du-'Which window?' You would not suppose from a glance at it that this man is a Hawalian. I happen to know him, as I do almost every one in town. Well, some clerk who doesn't know 'John G-- ' would naturally pitch the letter into 'General Delivery,' and John G- would inquire in vain at the Hawaiian window for his letter. So you see we have to remember many things and the clerks heads are just crammed with such data. What's in a name? Well, just ask any of the clerks and they will tell you.

"The business houses are not careful in this matter and if they knew that they were the ones that caused so much of the complaints that pour into the office weekly, I am sure they would rectify their present methods. Do you imagine for a moment a San Francisco firm would send out a bunch of envelopes like these? No, sir; they know that they would reach the dead letter office eventually, and in the case of papers, etc., the fire. Many such letters dropped into the boxes here find their way to the dead letter office. I have been in this office for eight years and know pretty nearly everybody and often save letters from being sent to the dead letter office, but suppose I am sick and the mail is worked by comparatively new clerks, a great many people in this city will wait in vain for their let-

"Another thing is that those people who have boxes forget to inform their correspondents that their box number is so-and-so. Of course we all know that prominent men have such-andsuch a box, but when the number is not on the letter the boys have got to think it out each time. How much better it would be if these letters had 'Box No 701,' etc., on them, as the case may be. The clerks don't have to read the names -just the numbers.

"Here are a few statistics which I believe will interest the Honolulu pub-

lic: The mails are increasing every month. When I came here eight years ago we were getting an accumulation of four bags a day in San Francisco for Honolulu. Six days' mail then meant about twenty-five bags of mail for this place, which was really nothing to speak of. Up to June 14 last it had increased to sixteen bags daily, and since then it has doubled-thir y-two sacks a day. You can readily understand what it is to receive eight days' later mail, which means about 256 sacks. It literally swamps the office. On the transport Hancock which arrived last Monday we received 225 sacks of mail. That was an average of thirty-seven bags a day accumulating in San Francisco. The vessel following a day later-the Peking-brought fifty bags of mail which had accumulated in twenty-four hours. On the Sonoma we expect 150 bags. With sixteen men 'working' the Hancock mail, that was an average of about fourteen sacks of mail to each man. The Hancock and Peking mail was all finished Wednes-

o'clock the day of its arrival. "In postoffices in the States employes come on at 8 a. m. and leave at 5 or 6, and a fresh crowd comes on, they in turn being relieved the next morning. When mail comes to us the men have to work steadily until it is all out. They are not relieved by fresh crowds, and considering all this I think we do very

cock first class mail was finished at 4

ing and delivery of the mails. Much metal racks which are supplied with of the complaint now being launched hooks to hold sacks up. The name of against the postoffice management is a postoffice set in the frame above the uncalled for and the cause relates more open mouth of the sack shows the clerk to the people of this city and all the where to pitch a piece of mail, usually towns on the Islands than to the post- papers. A paper after being deposited in the drop box is takout, the stamp cancelled and which the mails are handled in the local then thrown on the assorting table. office convinces the observer that there From this point the clerk throws the are conditions and difficulties to be paper to the proper bag. With fifty overcome here which are not met else- gaping mouths he necessarily becomes where in an American city. The cos- expert. He has to judge the distance, mopolitan character of the population, weight of paper, and the paper must the lack of street addresses and box go into the right sack, or he will eventnumbers on letters received from ually hear from headquarters. A semiabroad and the time of arrival and de- circular rack holds about a dozen sacks, parture of the mails establishes the fact above which are the labels, "New York that the Honolulu office cannot be com- City," "N. Y. Foreign," taking in the which is separated at New York city; "Chicago," "Washington, D. C.," "N. come in and go out of the small build- S. F.," mail for Middle and Western facilities in Honolulu. The manner in hiti and other places, separated at San vate boxes, general delivery or for and labelled here and a vessel arrives sacks for other Islands, was carefully in San Francisco in time to catch an

"Pitching," as the clerks term it, is practice the men rarely fail of their Honolulans have not forgotten the old mark. Failure to hit the right sack methods of sending out their city and means a tiresome walk around the

unnecessary work is exacted of the The Japanese and Chinese mail is clerks. In the olden days of the mon- made up in a separate pigeonhole case, archical and republican postoffices, clerks of these nationalities being emwhen everybody kn w everybody else ployed. The mails are very large. The letter more than plain "John Smith of 10,000 and 15,000 letters and papers City," the letters found their addressees by each Oriental steamer. The bulk of ter received at the postoffice from the nolulu. Two clerks handle the entire than four times what it did two ate. Mails for Southern China go direct P. O. Box 219. years ago, with clarks constantly to Hongkong; that for Northern China

dle. There is a rush of mail on Tuesto which "John Smith" it is, and wheth- as oftentimes changes in the sacking of of ownership? The man who rents the mass of letters which are found made. The rules of the postoffice are that as much of the equipment as pos- lord. The man who owns property is "Here is an instance of this very sible shall be in the postoffice and not thing," said Mr. Kenake, reaching to out upon the road, and the postmaster

> On Good Friday afternoon the ad-Words from the Cross will be given by the Bishop. He proposes to treat those lowing seven lessons of Christian faith and practice: 1. A spirit of forgivety. 7. Perfect trust in God through Christ.-Diocesan Magazine.

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